THE MESSENGER
OF THE OAKLAND STAKE OF ZION

Vol. 6 | OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, NOVEMBER, 1936 | No. 9

SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT SALT LAKE CITY

Making a stirring appeal for Latter-day Saints to bend every effort to support themselves, and in doing so to give full value received in all their employment, President Heber J. Grant in his opening address at the 107th semi-annual conference of the Church at Salt Lake City, October 2, reported that the Church had achieved its first major objective in the Church Security program.

In summarizing the achievements of the Church during the summer in gathering food, clothing and supplies, the President read a prepared statement. Ninety-eight stakes had reported, and 83 stated they are ready and fully prepared to care for their needy during the coming winter. The response of the people had far exceeded the expectations of the First Presidency. Over 300,000 cans of fruits and vegetables, great quantities of foodstuff, 23,000 articles of clothing and more than 2,000 quilts have been prepared since the inception of the program five months ago.

"Let every Latter-day Saint who has a farm, farm it, and not try to borrow money to be paid back by the government. Let every man feel that he is the architect and builder of his own life, and that he proposes to make a success of it by working. "Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work" and rest on the seventh, and do not be willing to labor four or five days and then only half labor. Let every Latter-day Saint give value received for everything he gets, whether it be in work, or whatever he does.

"I do not ask any man in this Church (although I will be eighty years of age next month), to work any more hours than I do. I do not think work ever hurts anybody. I do not know of anything that destroys a person's health more quickly than not working. It seems to me that lazy people die young. Please, every Latter-day Saint farmer, farm your land, because if you do not you will lose your inheritance, and someone else will get possession of it sooner or later. Do not take anything which you are capable of producing yourself."

President Grant urged the Saints not to become wrought up over the present political campaign, and "not allow their political affairs to cause feelings of ill-will towards one another."

Apostle Joseph Fielding Smith sounded a warning to the Saints against overdoing tolerance and broadmindedness. "Tolerance is not indulgence, and we should not be so broadminded that we throw over the teachings of the Gospel. I am satisfied that the Kingdom of God is guided by fixed law and cannot change because we have become modern and broadminded. The Lord is very tolerant, yet He declares we are bound by law."

(Continued on Next Page)

Merlin W. Stoker, son of Brother and Sister Robert Stoker, who left for a mission to the North Central Stakes, October 23, 1936.

JOHN ELLIS

John Ellis, father of Willard D. and Dr. Grant Ellis of this Stake, died at his home in Ogden October 4, 1936. He and his wife had visited this stake in 1922-23. He participated in the construction of the Oakland Chapel, dedicated in 1923.

Brother Ellis will be remembered by his many friends for his kindness and generosity toward the common people.

We extend heartfelt sympathy to his bereaved family.

ERA

Congratulations Elmhurst Ward!

Elmhurst's Era quota this year is 44 subscriptions. To date they have 45 subscriptions. This shows the result of leadership and cooperation.

WARD TEACHING IN OCTOBER

At the Bishops' meeting on October 25, the following reports were made with regard to the ward teaching in the wards and branches of Oakland Stake.

Alameda: Of the sixty-one families, fifty-one had been visited. H. S. Harmon, who is in charge, is to be highly complimented.

Berkeley: 35%.

Dimond: 84%

Elmhurst: 70%

Martinez: 75%.

QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

The Oakland Stake quarterly conference was held Nov. 1 in the Oakland Chapel with Pres. W. Aird Macdonald presiding. Elder Melvin J. Ballard of the General Authorities was present.

At the Priesthood meeting on Saturday evening, Brother Ballard and Dr. Ben Black, medical director of Alameda County were the speakers. The opening prayer was given by W. Glen Harmon, and the benediction pronounced by W. King Driggs.

In the Sunday morning session the speakers were Brother Ballard and Presidents Johnson and Hilton.

Brother Ballard observed that our temporal salvation is very important, but our spiritual salvation is even more so. No person can rightly say he is saved until his life's work is completed. Then, if he has sufficiently complied with the law, he may expect salvation and exaltation.

President Johnson spoke briefly on the law of consecration. President Hilton spoke on the spiritual blessings attendant on the restoration of the gospel. Patriarch Norman B. Phillips offered the invocation, and Don J. Allphin the benediction.

Sunday afternoon the invocation was given by Frank J. Parsons, chairman of the Stake Music Committee. The Oakland and Berkeley Ward choirs under the direction of King Driggs provided the musical numbers. The following stake workers were released with a vote of thanks: High Council, I. B. Ball, and John Solberg; Stake Mission Presidency, Walter D. Bray; Robert T. Payne from the Genealogical Presidency; and Ida Nelson from the Primary presidency. W. Glen Harmon was sustained as High Counselor in place of I. B. Ball, and Nathan G. Tolman in place of John Solberg.

The following Oakland Stake missionaries were honorably released: Jens P. Jensen, Helene Brummett, Harold W. Miller, Ray Shields, Walter Bray, and W. P. Fuller.

The speakers at the afternoon session were W. Glen Harmon, Nathan G. Tolman, Ezra T. Benson, President Macdonald, and Melvin J. Ballard. Bishop Alma D. Ericksen pronounced the benediction.

At the evening conference session, held under the direction of the Oakland Stake M. I. A., a varied musical program was presented.

THE RELIEF SOCIETY MAGAZINE

There are 393 members of the Relief Society in Oakland Stake. This organization has just completed its magazine drive for the year, and report 398 subscriptions. The Oakland Relief Society is to be highly congratulated for this wonderful record.

THE MESSENGER

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"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me; and the Lord whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple."—Mal. 3:1.

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HIGH COUNCIL AND MISSIONARY APPOINTMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 15

Alameda—I. B. Ball, Leon Baer
Berkeley—D. J. Allphin, Robert T. Payne
Dimond—J. Soelburg, John Searle
Elmhurst—Dr. Fisher, Ira B. Call
Hayward—D. Wood, E. J. Partington
Martinez—J. J. Kest, George Badouin
Oakland—Grant Ellis, Glen Elliott
Richmond—D. Wright, Edwin Humphries
Vallejo—C. C. Carr, R. Cox

WARD TEACHER'S MESSAGE FOR NOVEMBER, 1936

THRIFT

One of the most desirable of human virtues is thrift. This admirable and helpful quality brings happiness and success through self-control and mastery that give supreme satisfaction.

Its opposite brings worry, grief, suffering, humiliation, and sometimes even more serious consequences.

Thrift is not miserliness. It is the wise use of money. Intelligent spending is frequently the most desirable type of thrift. Real thrift—of money or time or substance—means the avoidance of waste, the absence of squandering, the proper regard for values, and an outlook for the future.

The following excerpts from "A Guide to Quorum Activity" give helpful advice which every Latter-day Saint family should heed:

"Every member of the Priesthood should strive for financial independence. This must come ordinarily from the savings from the income from his vocation. Whether he achieves it depends largely upon his own efforts. It is his duty to do all he can to secure for himself and his family the things that are necessary in the happy life, and some protection against the weakness of old age.

"A man should save some part of his income. The necessary expenses must be so regulated that something is left over to go into the savings fund. Every member of the Priesthood, whether young or old, desires to increase his education; to go on a mission; to make some investments that will yield an income to help in the day when his earning capacity has diminished, and to do other things that will increase the joy of his life. The cost of all such ventures must come out of his savings. Saving must go along with earning. It follows that he must not go into debt, except under the greatest pressure and the largest need. It is doubtful if a man has a right to go in debt for anything else than an education, a mission, or a home."

OUR GOAL

"Nothing is more conducive to arriving nowhere than to be going nowhere. That is one spot where, with no sign posts and little urge, one arrives with utmost certainty."

This statement by Earl J. Glade is very true but cannot be said in reference to the Kindergarten Department of the Oakland Stake Sunday Schools. With the alert and cooperative corps of workers now in charge of this department, we are definitely going someplace.

We feel that our work is coincident with that of our missionaries and no less important—that we are both introducing the gospel to the future members of our church. We though, have the advantage in that we have no opposing religious ideas to overcome, rather, we have trusting, fertile minds and hearts, wherein to lay the first strong foundation blocks of the gospel as we believe it.

We have the opportunity of instilling a lasting desire for the finer things of life. To teach them that God is their friend and that He is kind and forgiving to all. That thru righteous thinking and doing we may some day dwell with Him. And that good deeds like flowers multiply with cultivation and by sharing them with others.

As for the sign posts, they are provided by the General Board so that the Stake Board may set them up in a way that will make it easy for the local teachers to point them out to each little child. They are the ones that are going to teach the meaning of faith, the necessity of Prayer and the beauty of Song in the child's daily life.

It is said that our greatest learning takes place during the first eight years of life. The Kindergarten teacher realizing the fact that they have a child during the four most important years of this period are trying hard to give all that they possibly can in the way of spiritual training.

So with this, and the aim that every child from three to seven years be actively enrolled in Sunday School, as our goal, the Kindergarten Department is marching on urging each little child to partake of the fulness and beauty of our church and the teachings of Him who loved the little children so and said of them, "Suffer them to come unto me, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven."

(Speech by Ruth Gealta, Stake Kindergarten Supervisor.)

Mrs. Louise Y. Robison, president of the Church Relief Society at the recent conference in Salt Lake City made a clear annunciation of policies, which for years have agitated the women of the Church. Said she:

"Relief societies are NOT to raffle off quilts or other articles under any conditions whatsoever, and no matter what the needs for money may be. Raffles of any kind, whether tickets are sold outright or given "free" with purchases of small flowers or candy, are definitely against the policy of the organization and cannot be countenanced.

To give "blackface" minstrel shows, burlesque of noble aims or any other entertainment tending to detract from the dignity of the organization or of any of its members."

SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE

(Continued from First Page)

Pres. Levi Edgar Young of the First Council of Seventy, sounded a warning to the Saints, also. "We cry for peace, but there is no peace, for peace must come from within, not from political leagues" he said. "The morale of America has drifted to a low state; self-reliance and personal responsibility are being undermined—a premium is being placed on class war instead of cooperation—souls are being purchased by the offer of idleness instead of honest work."

One of the outstanding events of the conference was the two national broadcasts over the Columbia chain, that was part of the Sunday morning session. Following the regular Sunday morning broadcast of the Tabernacle choir and organ, the "Church of the Air" was presented in which nearly 20,000 assembled Saints participated. Apostles John A. Widtsoe and Melvin J. Ballard were the speakers. Answering the question, "What is Man?" Dr. Widtsoe declared he is "one of the eternal, imperishable realities of the universe." "Man is the child of God" he continued, "therefore he partakes of the divine nature of his Father. Within him lie the germs of infinite development. Potentially he is a God-like being. Therefore he may rise eternally toward the likeness of his Father in Heaven. Upward, divine, unending is man's destiny."

In a ringing voice, Apostle Ballard to his great world audience, declared the sacred mission of the Church is to provide witnesses "to this doubtful and skeptical generation that Jesus is the Christ." Concluding, he testified to a personal knowledge that Jesus had visited the earth in this age, and called on people everywhere to continue the "glorious warfare to win the world for Christ, its rightful ruler."

Pres. J. Reuben Clark following the theme of the conference, recalled the Lord's injunction given to Adam and Eve—"In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread all the days of thy life." "If we can get into our minds the dignity and honor of work," he said, "most of the ills from which we suffer will dissolve. No plan was ever devised for man to live in idleness." The security plan, said Pres. Clark, reverts to principles given the Church 100 years ago, and sets the Church on the road to establish Christian rule. The Gospel plan takes care of temporal as well as physical needs, and provides how people shall live day by day.

Presiding Bishop Sylvester Q. Cannon gave some interesting statistics concerning the Church. He said the LDS Church stands 12th in a list of 33 in America having the largest memberships. The percentage of membership gain is nearly double that of any other in the list. Tithing has increased 20%, while fast offerings have grown 46%. He stated that 16,100 needy persons have been given aid by the Church during the last six months.

Characteristic of all General Conferences, this recent one "was the best conference ever held." The great throngs of Saints in attendance were impressed with the inspired leaders of the Church.

W. Aird Macdonald

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FAREWELL

A missionary farewell in honor of Merlin W. Stoker, of Elmhurst Ward, took place in the Elmhurst Chapel and recreation hall on Friday evening, October 16. A program and a dance constituted the evening's entertainment.

Merlin is representative of the young men of his age in the Stake. He has been reared under the Latter-day Saint system so that we feel confident he will make a creditable record in the mission field.

Got any rivers they say are uncrossable?
Got any mountains they say "can't tunnel through?"
We specialize in the wholly impossible,
Doing the things they say you can't do.
—Song of the Panama Builders

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MISSIONARIES

Another missionary farewell party was held in the Elmhurst Ward chapel Friday evening, October 16. This time it was in honor of Elder Merlin W. Stoker, who has been called to labor in the North Central States Mission. He is the fourth missionary to leave Elmhurst Ward within a year.

Elder Stoker will enter the Mission Home in Salt Lake City, October 26, for instruction prior to his departure for the Mission Field.

Merlin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stoker. Mr. Stoker was a member of the first Branch Presidency in Elmhurst before there was a Stake in the Eastbay. He and his family wish to express their appreciation to the people of this Stake, for the consideration they have shown Merlin at this time.

Merlin has been an active worker in the M. I. A. and we know he will be a missionary of whom the Stake may be proud.

This is a list of the missionaries from the Oakland Stake, and even though you do not know any of them personally, still they will be glad to know they have your moral support and an interest in your faith and prayers.

Elder Gail Cragun—5 cents postage
Prolongomentda Rua Cambariu, Joinville, Santa Catharina, Brazil, South America
Elder Boice Carr—5 cents postage
Crooswijkschesingle 16B,
Rotterdam, Holland
Elder Grant Tolman—5 cents postage
52 Albert Street, East Melbourne C-2,
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
Sister June Weindorff
3044 Elliot, Minneapolis, Minn.
Sister Helene Brummett
302 South Pleasant Street,
Independence, Missouri
Elder Merlin Stoker
3044 Elliot, Minneapolis, Minn.
Elder Eugene Hilton—5 cents postage
Kirchwender Strasse 13, B/o,
Hanover, Germany

SUNDAY SCHOOL

According to word received from Superintendent R. K. Thomas of the Berkeley Ward, Dime Sunday went over the top with a one hundred and fifty percent bang. Congratulations.

Chorister H. J. Nielsen recommends that the following two songs be practiced: Hark! Hark! to the Classmate Song, page 209, and Come One and All, page 262.

The Stake Sunday School Board recently held a birthday party at the home of Louis F. and Thurza E. Boyle. Bro. Boyle was presented with a copy of Elder John Henry Evan's book **Joseph Smith, The American Prophet.**

STAKE GENEALOGICAL COMMITTEE MISSIONARIES

A few weeks ago an announcement was made by the First Presidency to the effect that a temple would shortly be built in California. Immediately considerable speculation was rife concerning the location of this new edifice. Each of the Pacific Stakes made its bid for the coveted privilege of having a "House of the Lord" within its boundaries.

Although Santa Monica will see the first California L.D.S. temple, Oakland Stake is assured that it will secure the second such temple to be built in this state.

Why do we build temples? Do we appreciate those already in regular session? Are we mindful of our personal qualifications to participate in temple ordinances? Do we possess an acceptable family record?

The presence of a temple in our midst would entail many responsibilities. The daily routine of an average size temple requires the services of approximately 50 workers, consisting of the executors, recorders and ordinance workers. With the seating arranged for 100 persons, and three sessions a day, three hundred endowments per day would be possible. At the rate of 20 working days per month, 72,000 names would be required for the year. 72,000 visits to the temple, both for the living and the dead!

Are we, as a Stake, prepared for that responsibility? A great privilege, true, but all privileges carry grave responsibilities. Would we be prepared to accept a call to labor in the House of the Lord? Are our family records ready for proxy work? Are we like the five wise virgins or the foolish ones?

God explained to Moses: "Behold this is my work and my glory, to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man." You and I as His saints have been invited to participate in this work of redemption to apply the Plan of Salvation to the teeming millions of God's children who did not enjoy the privileges of the gospel as we do today, by "seeking after our dead." In very deed we become Saviours on Mount Zion. May we rise to the heights of our possibilities.

—George E. Southgate.

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DIMOND

Winnifred Phelps has returned from a pleasant visit with her parents in Salt Lake City.

Ruth Hilton and her small daughter, Patricia, have left for an extended visit with friends and relatives in Woodruff, Arizona.

The Dimond Chapel was the setting for a fall wedding Saturday evening, October 24, when Grace Burch became the bride of Elwood S. Worthington. The ceremony was performed by Bishop Serge J. Lauper.

The Mutual Officers are to be congratulated on the huge success of their M. I. A. Character Ball given Friday evening, October 30. Ninety per cent of the participants were in costume. Between dances the large crowd was refreshed with cider and doughnuts.

James H. England is pleased to have his father, John England, visit with him and his family. His home is in Burley, Idaho.

For the past several weeks Jane Kilner, President of the Relief Society, has been visiting in Salt Lake City.

J. Byron Dorius spent a few days with his brother, Dr. Glenn Dorius, prior to his departure for a mission in Sidney, Australia. He left October 14 on the S. S. Monterey. Brother Lund of Cedar City, and Brother Lindsey of Phoenix, Arizona, accompanied him.

Bishop Serge J. Lauper recently returned from Salt Lake where he attended Quarterly Conference.

Saturday evening, October 17, the New Testament Class enjoyed a formal dinner dance given at the Almaden Apartments. Twenty young people were in attendance.

On October 20, thirty five friends of Thomas Boothe attended a birthday surprise party in his honor.

Minerva Seavy and Kenneth Bailey were married on October 10 in Hillgart Circle. Bromwell Z. Cox officiated.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Loane have returned from New York. In Salt Lake they were joined by Mrs. Loane's mother, Lillian Rigby, who had been visiting there for several weeks.

The Primary officers held their monthly business meeting and social at the home of Rose Clarke. Hostesses for the day were Genniel Guin and Luella Brockbank.

A Hallowe'en party was given for the children who attended primary, October 31.

BERKELEY

Miss Alma Ericksen entertained at a Hallowe'en Masquerade given at her home, Saturday evening, October 31. During the evening the thirty guests were sent on a scavenger hunt, after which a midnight supper was served.

The stake senior party was held in the Berkeley ward Recreation Hall on October 6.

The young ladies entertained the young men at a buffet supper and dance held on Friday evening, October 30, in the recreation hall.

Marcellus Ricks, former vice-president of the Berkeley Deseret Club recently left for Salt Lake where his marriage was solemnized in the Temple, Friday evening, October 30. His bride, the former Jane Jones, is a member of a prominent Salt Lake family.

RICHMOND

Marriages in the Ward during the past few months include the following: Wanda Roark and Roy Dirdoni married in Oakland, October 3; Lester Roark and Frances Carey married in Oakland, August 1; Floyd Redfield and Virginia King, August 13, in Reno; Melvin Redfield and Thais Williams, September 12, in San Francisco, and Daisy Edna Bright and Aaron Oberg Jones in Point Richmond, October 16.

We extend congratulations and good wishes to the couples.

Mrs. Alice Burgess was hostess at a luncheon and stork shower given in honor of her daughter, Mrs. Grace Hopkins. Twenty three guests were present.

We wish to welcome Mr. and Mrs. William Radley, their daughter, Niada, and nephew, Donald Pickard, to Richmond Ward.

Ground was broken Tuesday, October 20 for our new chapel. Good progress has already been made. Mr. R. O. Phelps of Dimond Ward is superintending construction of the building.

Mrs. Evangeline Davies of Salt Lake City and her small daughter, Geraldine, are guests of her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dietliker.

A kitchen shower was held for Miss Mae Fuller, October 29 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Bradeson. Miss Fuller and Jack Bradeson will be married November 9.

"God hath set labor and rest, as day and night,
To men successive . . .
Other creatures all day long
Roam idle, unemployed, and less need rest;
Man hath his daily work of body or mind
Appointed, which declares his dignity,
And the regard of heaven on all his ways.
While other animals unactive range,
And of their doings God takes no account."

—Milton

MARTINEZ

The Relief Society was entertained October 8 by Mrs. Audrey Easton and Miss Grace Easton at their home. Games were enjoyed during the evening and refreshments served.

Miss Ruth Bernards of Salt Lake is visiting with her cousins, Clarence and Parley Bernards.

We welcome Parley and Marjorie Bernards to our Ward.

Yvonne Hammond is in Los Angeles because of the illness of her mother.

A baby boy (David Arland) was born on October 5 to Mrs. Arland Olson.

Mrs. Raymond Larsen and children are visiting in Arizona.

The Relief Society held a quilting party Wednesday evening, October 21. About 18 members were present. After an evening of quilting, refreshments were served.

The Primary children were entertained at a Hallowe'en party at 6:30 on Friday evening at the church. The adults had their Hallowe'en party Saturday evening.

Speakers at the Sacrament meeting of October 18, were G. Ellis and H. Brown.

ALAMEDA

The Boy Scouts spent the week-end of October 9 and 10 at Niles Canyon under the leadership of Reed Scow and Edward Barrett. They studied several phases of scouting and hiked to many places of interest.

The Elders held a "weiner roast" at Sequoia Park Tuesday evening, October 13.

Mrs. Janett Iness Targhetta died in Alameda, September 6, 1936. She was born in Salt Lake City, March 21, 1877 to Nathaniel Vary Jones and Janet I. Swan. An active woman, she worked in the Relief Society and was a member of the Stanford University Mothers' Club.

Two marriages were solemnized in the ward this month. Dorothy Everett and Paul Richard Franke were married October 24 by Eugene B. Jacobs; and Elena Targhetta was married to John Antone Monte, October 31, by Leo H. Crandall.

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